government to grant licenses.

In the environment of a possibility of a number of licensee service providers, besides the Central Government, the Committee has recommended that the status of the organisation of the government responsible for establishment, maintenance and operation of telecommunication systems, apparatus and services retained by the Government under the above privilege should be at par with the licensee service providers for the purpose of regulation and controls. Also this organisation should have an identity distinctly separate from the Central government. The Committee has proposed that this organisation may be called "telecom operating authority".

It is proposed that the Central Government should be responsible for the functions which are common to all the service providers namely:

(i) Standardisation.
(ii) Research and development.
(iii) Preparation and monitoring of the development plans.
(iv) regulation and management of frequency spectrum.
(v) Management of relations with International Bodies.

The Central Government should create a statutory authority to monitor and regulate the services and settle the disputes between the subscribers and the service provider, or between two service providers. This authority has been given the name "telecom regulatory authority" and its duties and responsibilities have been listed in the proposed Act.

In order to make the Act service oriented, the duties and responsibilities of the "service provider" and the "subscriber" have been listed in the proposed Act.

The section dealing with the rates for transmission of telecommunications within and outside India is proposed to be modified and factors to be kept in view while fixing these rates have been listed.

The section relating to settlement of disputes is proposed to have provision to deal with disputes between subscriber and the service provider and also the disputes between two service providers. The arbitrator is proposed to be appointed by the telecom regulating authority instead of the Central Government.

A modification in section dealing with fraudulent use of telecommunication system is proposed to widen it to include any person who dishonestly obtains telecommunication service with a view to avoid payment, and employee helping him to do so.

A new section has been proposed to take care of the improper use of the telecommunication system by sending malicious and obscene telecommunications.

**Monetary Expansion**

*2. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the monetary expansion during the last three years and this year, so far;

(b) whether the balance between the growth of GDP, population growth and monetary expansion has been maintained during the above period to keep the inflation under control;

(c) if not, what arc the factors that have negated the inflation control factors;

(d) whether devaluation of our currency, price hike in petroleum products, foodgrains and other agro-based commodities, have played significant role in escalation of inflation; and

(c) if so, what arc the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Monet-

ary expansion (growth of M3) since 1989-90 is listed below:

| Year | Rate of Expansion (%) |
|---|---|
| 1989-90 | 19.4 |
| 1990-91 | 15.1 |
| 1991-92 | 18.5 |
| 1992-93 (Upto Oct. 30, 1992) | 10.2 |

(b) and (c) This Government hss sought to restore the macro-economic balance in the economy with a view to containing inflation. The monetary policy aims at meeting the credit needs to ensure growth of the economy.

The overhang of excess liquidity that had characterised earlier period was sought to be neutralized through reduction in fiscal deficit. As a result, the rate of inflation which had reached a peak of 16.7% in August 1991 has now declined to 9.1% as on 7th November, 1992.

(d) and (c) Exchange rate adjustments together with revision in prices of petroleum products and other administered prices had both a direct and indirect effect on the general level of prices The annual rate of inflation increased from 12.3% before exchange rate adjustments (end June 1991) to 12.6% after the exchange rate change.

The current financial year started with an inflation rate of 13,6% and reached a peak of 14% in the second week of April. Since then it declined in each successive week reaching a low of 7.4% in the 3rd week of September, 1992. Though the increase in petroleum prices in September 1992 had its immediate impact pushing up the inflation rate of 8.87... the overall impact is now offset by the favourable price situation in respect of foodgrains and other agro-based commodities whose prices have stablised and even marginally declined. The annual inflation rate reached 9.1% on 7th November. 1992 and is anticipated to decline further during the following weeks.

**Inclusion of Kayamkulam thermal Power Plant in the Eighth Five Year Plan**

*3. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposal for the Kayamkulam Thermal Power Plant in Kerala, submitted by the NTPC, has not been included in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposals which have been submitted by the NTPC for consideration by the Planning Commission for inclussion in the Eighth Five Year Plan and which out of them have been accepted; and

(c) what are the reasons for rejecting the other proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAl): (a) to (c) The Kayamkulam Thermal Power Project (2x210 MW) of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has been included in the Eighth Five Year Plan for yielding benefits in the Ninth Plan. Details of the projects proposed by NTPC for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year Plan, the projects recommended by the Planning Commission for yielding benefits during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the Projects recommended by the Planning Commission for implementation in the 8th Plan with benefits during the 9th Plan or beyond arc furnished in the statement (See below). The proposals not included for yielding benefits either during the Eighth or the Ninth Five Year Plan require statutory clearance and funding tie-up.